

## ABSTRACT

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR  
SIMULATING INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES

5 In order to design and implement industrial processes in  
an efficient manner, an apparatus (1) is provided which  
can simulate a process to be implemented. The processing  
10 of the simulation is controlled by a modelling module  
(17) and is arranged to cause the constraints on  
scheduling batches in the simulation to correspond to the  
constraints in actual processing where mixing of batches  
initiated at different times is avoided. This is  
15 achieved by the modelling module (17), whenever a batch  
is initiated in the simulation, scheduling the following  
batch to be initiated, the greatest of either the maximum  
time items of equipment require to process the batch  
initiated if no delays occur within the system or the  
20 greatest time for processing batches of items equipment  
currently in use.

(Figure 2)

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